



CT-PHCC

PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING CONTRACTORS OF CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY
ROBERT MACCA
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR
CT PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

The Connecticut Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association (CT-PHCC) **supports the intent of HB-5220, An Act Concerning the Enforcement of Certain Professional and Occupational Licensing, Certification and Registration Laws.**

We look forward to working with the various licensed trade groups to craft legislation that will ensure that the state's occupational licensing laws are vigorously enforced.

While the state has taken several steps to enhance occupational licensing enforcement, and we thank you for that, we need to continue to support policies that will effectively deter contractors from operating in Connecticut without the proper licenses and apprenticeship registrations. We are aware of instances where contractors have operated in Connecticut without benefit of licensure and shrugged off the penalty because the risk of enforcement was so low.

Allowing unlicensed contractors to operate in Connecticut hurts our entire industry by exposing workers and consumers to potentially unsafe situations. Employees, who should have been given credit for hours on the job, are unfairly penalized by unscrupulous contractors who fail to register apprentices. This has to end.

We support efforts to utilize the expertise of the licensing boards in enforcing occupational licensing laws. PHCC would also support the use of active enforcement efforts, such as sting operations, which would go a long way toward deterring unlicensed contractors from performing work in this state. If such stings were conducted and publicized, it would clearly enhance the state's occupational licensing enforcement efforts.

CT-PHCC is a not-for-profit trade association that represents the professional plumbing, heating and cooling contractors in the state of Connecticut. CT-PHCC and its members are committed to protecting the health and safety of the public. Contractors who belong to the association have demonstrated reliability and trustworthiness and are licensed by the state of Connecticut.